

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of Claims 1-11, 13, 14 and 16-18.

No claims have been rejected on the basis of prior art. Claims 12, 15 and 19 have however been rejected on the basis of informalities. Claims 12, 15 and 19 are amended herein to correct the informalities and are believed to be in allowable form.

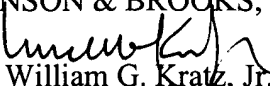
In view of the present amendment, Claims 1-19 are believed to be allowable and early action towards that end is respectfully requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP


William G. Kratz, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 22,631

WGK/nrp
Atty. Docket No. 030771
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

H:\HOMENANCY\03\030771\AMENDMENT